

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A tool for facilitating breakage of the neck of a glass vial and protecting the operator from injury to the fingers, the tool comprising:

a piece of cardboard folded such that a box structure is formed for containing at least one glass vial with a neck to be broken, ~~said box structure~~ said piece of cardboard having a tool
5 cardboard portion, said tool cardboard portion having at least one vial-breaking tool located therein, said tool cardboard portion being folded such that said tool cardboard portion is
movable from a position within said box structure to a position outside of said box structure,
said at least one vial-breaking tool comprising a strip of cardboard, said strip of cardboard defining a hole in a center position thereof for receiving the neck of the glass vial, said strip
10 having at least one transverse folding area fold defined by a weakened line, said at least one
transverse fold coinciding with said hole, said strip being detached from said tool cardboard
portion to define a detached strip of cardboard when said tool cardboard portion is in said
position outside of said box structure, said detached strip of cardboard being folded along said
transverse fold such that two leaves are formed ~~when said at least one vial-breaking tool is~~
15 ~~located at a position outside of said box structure,~~ one leaf being opposite another leaf when
said detached strip of cardboard is folded along said transverse fold ~~when said at least one vial-~~
~~breaking tool is located at a position outside of said box structure,~~ each leaf being arranged
adjacent to the neck of the glass vial when said neck of said glass vial is inserted into said hole,
each leaf defining finger engaging portions, each leaf of said detached strip of cardboard
20 defining a means for receiving a vial breaking force in an area of said finger engaging portions

such that the neck of the glass vial breaks ~~when said at least one vial-breaking tool is located at said position outside of said box structure.~~

2. (Withdrawn) Tool according to claim 1, wherein the two leaves are joined together at the ends opposite to the hole.

3. (Withdrawn) Tool according to claim 1, wherein each of the two leaves has a first weakening for a transverse fold at a small distance from said hole for adaptation to the shape of the vial.

4. (Withdrawn) Tool according to claim 3, wherein each of the two leaves also has a second further weakening for a transverse fold at a greater distance from said hole than said first weakening for a transverse fold, so as to allow inward bending of the cardboard between the two leaves in order to adapt the tool to the shoulder of the vial and to the neck thereof.

5. (Withdrawn) Tool according to claim 1, the two leaves have a longitudinal ribbing which is shaped and convex outwards from said hole so as to create a partial housing for the neck of the vial.

6. (Withdrawn) Tool according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the leaves has a window for visual inspection of a reference mark provided on the neck of the vial for indicating

the direction of the pressure to be exerted for breakage of the vial neck.

7. (Currently Amended) A tool for facilitating breakage of the neck of a glass vial for pharmaceuticals, the tool comprising:

a piece of cardboard folded such that a box structure is formed, said box structure containing one or more vials with a neck to be broken, said ~~box structure~~ said piece of
5 cardboard having a cardboard portion ~~[[tool]]~~ detachably connected thereto, said cardboard
portion being integrally connected to said box structure such that said cardboard portion is
movable from a position located in said box structure to a position located outside of said box
structure, said cardboard portion including at least one tool detachably connected thereto, said
at least one tool comprising a cardboard element with at least one pre-folded fold line defining
10 a first finger receiving section and a second finger receiving section, said first finger receiving
section being symmetrical to said second finger receiving section, said cardboard element
defining a glass vial neck receiving hole for receiving the neck of a glass vial, said pre-folded
fold line being located on each side of said glass vial receiving hole in a direction transverse of
a width of said cardboard element, said cardboard element being detached from said box
15 structure when said cardboard portion is in said position located outside of said box structure,
said cardboard element being folded to a folded position when said cardboard element is
detached from said ~~box structure~~ cardboard portion such that said first finger receiving section
is opposite said second finger receiving section and said first receiving section and said second
finger receiving section extend in a direction opposite of the neck of glass vial, said first finger

20 receiving section and said second finger receiving section being adjacent to the neck of the glass vial when said cardboard element is in said folded position, said first finger receiving section and said second finger receiving section defining an abutment, whereby said abutment receives a force for breaking the neck of the glass vial.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A tool according to claim 1, wherein one strip of cardboard is integrally connected to another strip of cardboard along pre-cut lines to form an integral strip of detachable individual tools, each tool being detachable from another tool such that one
5 detached tool is used to remove the neck of the glass vial in a detached state.

10. (Withdrawn) A tool according to claim 9, wherein said integral strip of cardboard comprises a surface in excess of that forming the strip of tools to be detached, which excess surface is used for printing information relating to use of the tools and/or information of an advertising nature and/or relating to the product contained in the vial of a packaging which also
5 contains said strip of tools.

11. (Withdrawn) A tool according to claim 10, wherein the surface in excess of the strip of tools from which the strip of tools are obtained forms two zones which can be folded over so as to form a three-layer assembly.

12. (Withdrawn) A tool according to claim 9, wherein said strip of tools is formed as an appendage of a punched element for the formation of a box intended to form the packaging for which said strip of tools is intended, said appendage being handled with the operations for forming the box, being hinged by means of a folding line with a component of said punched element.

13. (Currently Amended) A box for containing glass vials with a neck to be broken, made with a punched element forming walls of the box partly delimited by folding lines, the box comprising:

a single piece of cardboard, said single piece of cardboard being folded along a plurality of defined fold lines such that a box structure is formed having a plurality of cardboard side walls, said single piece of cardboard including an appendage and a cardboard portion integrally connected thereto, said appendage ~~protruding from~~ being connected to an interior surface of one of the cardboard side walls of the box structure, said cardboard portion being connected to said one of said cardboard walls along one of said defined fold lines, said one of said defined fold lines being adjacent to said appendage, said cardboard portion being movable from a first position to a second position, said cardboard portion being located in said box structure in said first position, said cardboard portion being located at a position outside of said box structure in said second position, said appendage cardboard portion forming a strip of detachable cardboard tools, each tool being connected to an adjacent tool via a pre-cut line in an attached state, one of said tools being detached from another of said tools and said box structure in a

detached state when said cardboard portion is in said second position, each tool having a hole for receiving a neck of a glass vial and two finger engaging sections longitudinally extending on each side of said hole, each tool having a transverse fold extending a width of said tool, one of said tools being folded along said transverse fold in said detached state such that the neck of the glass vial is perpendicular to said transverse fold when ~~[[said]]~~ the neck of the glass vial is inserted into said hole.

14. (Previously Presented) A box according to claim 13, wherein said appendage is folded over at least twice and is glued in zones of adjacent surfaces.

15. (Withdrawn) A box according to claim 12, wherein one of the two front walls is formed as a contour of a lid defined by a cut or pre-cut line and by a folding line forming a hinge.

16. (Withdrawn) A box according to claim 13, wherein said appendage forms at least one of the closing flaps of the box with which said appendage is hinged.

17. (Withdrawn) A box according to claim 16, wherein said appendage is engaged, against one of the front walls of the box, with the material of the hole of one of the strips which is defined by a pre-cut line, said material being glued to said front wall.

18. (Withdrawn) A box according to claim 16, wherein said appendage forms laterally both the closing flaps of the box.

19. (Currently Amended) A box for containing glass vials with a neck to be broken, the box comprising:

a punched piece of cardboard having pre-folded lines defining two front walls, two side walls, two closing flaps, an appendage and a detachable cardboard portion having a strip of detachable tools, said piece of cardboard being folded such that said appendage is connected to one of said side walls and one of said front walls is opposite another front wall and one of said closing flaps is opposite another of said closing flaps and one of said side walls is opposite another of said side walls to form a box structure, said cardboard portion being connected to said one of said side walls along one of said pre-folded lines such that said cardboard portion is movable from a first position to a second position, whereby said cardboard portion with said strip of detachable tools [[is]] being located within said box structure in said first position, said cardboard portion with said strip of detachable tools being located at a position outside of said box structure in said second position, said strip of detachable tools being detached one by one from said ~~box structure~~ cardboard portion in a detached state when said cardboard portion is located at said position outside of said box structure for removing a neck of a glass vial, each detachable tool having a hole for receiving a neck of a glass vial and two finger engaging sections, each finger engaging section extending in a longitudinal direction of said detachable tool, each detachable tool having a transverse fold extending a width of said tool, one of said

tools being folded along said transverse fold in said detached state such that the neck of the glass vial is perpendicular to said transverse fold when ~~[[said]]~~ the neck of the glass vial is inserted into said hole, each finger engaging section extending in a direction opposite the neck of the glass vial when said one of said tools is folded along said transverse fold.

20. (Previously Presented) A box in according to claim 19, wherein each finger engaging section defines an abutment, whereby said abutment receives a force from an external source for breaking the neck of the glass vial when one of said detachable tools is in said detached state.

21. (Previously Presented) A box in according to claim 20, wherein one of said front walls is formed as a lid, said detachable strip of tools being folded under said lid such that said detachable strip of tools unfolds when said lid is lifted.